APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,353	02/07/2002	James H. Buchanan	5022.20-1	4267

23559 7590 01/11/2006		EXAMINER
MUNSCH, HARDT, KOPF & HARR, P.C.		WILSON, ROBERT W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2661	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/072,353	BUCHANAN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Robert W. Wilson	2661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _07 February 2002_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-27_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-22_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _23-27_ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _3/26/02 & 10/21/02_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

Claim Objections

1.   Claim 5-6 & 9-10 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of

claims. Claim 5 appears to be a duplicate of claim 6. Claim 9 appears to be a duplicate of claim

10. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both

cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim

to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP

§ 706.03(k).

Claim Objections

2.   Claims 23-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would

be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim

and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 1, 14, & 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(B) as being anticipated by Iyer

(U.S. Patent No.; 6,944,183).

Referring to claim 1, Iyer teaches: A method for assigning routing policy to a plurality of sites of

a VPN per col. 4 line 1-col. 5 line 28 or per col. 1 lines 65-col. 2 line 52 or provisioning. The

administrator graphically defines the relationship between the sides of the VPN per col. 4 line 1-

col. 5 line 28. The administrator assigns the sites to policies one of which defines them as a part

of a RIPv1 or RIPv2 network or routing network. RIPv1 and RIPv2 inherently have at least one

routing rule.

In addition Iyer teaches:

Regarding claim 14, policies are stored in the central database per Abstract or per col. 8 lines 65-

67.

Referring to claim 21, Iyer teaches: A method for assigning routing policy to a plurality of sites

of a VPN per col. 4 line 1-col. 5 line 28 or per col. 1 lines 65-col. 2 line 52 or provisioning. The

administrator graphically displays at least one VPN component per Fig 7. Fig 7 enables

dragging a representation of at least one site of a plurality of sites toward at least one VPN

component. Fig 7 enables dropping of said representation of said at least one site on said

representation of said at least one VPN component thereby causing said site to become a member

of said VPN component

The administrator assigns the sites to policies one of which defines them as a part of a RIPv1 or

RIPv2 network or routing network per col. 12 lines 20-38. RIPv1 and RIPv2 inherently have at

least one routing rule.

In addition Iyer teaches:

Regarding claim 22, policies are stored in the central database per Abstract or per col. 8 lines 65-

67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claims 2-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iyer (U.S.

Patent No.: 6,944,183) in view of Zaummen (U.S. Patent No.: 5,881,243)

Referring to claim 2, Iyer teaches: the method of claim 1, Iyer does not expressly call for:

wherein generating at least one routing rule comprises: automatically generating at least one

import rule, automatically generating at least one local export rule, and automatically generating

at least one remote export rule but teaches that routing protocol RIP is assigned per col. 12 lines

20-38

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends import and export messages per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines

46-67. RIP inherently has rules regarding import and export of routes regardless of whether they

are local or remote per col. 12 lines 20-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

import and export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claim 3, Iyer teaches: the method of claim 1, Iyer does not expressly call for:

wherein automatically generating at least one routing rule for each site comprises generating an

import rule for discarding route information received from the respective site but teaches that

routing protocol RIP is assigned per col. 12 lines 20-38

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends import and export messages per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines

46-67. RIP inherently has rules regarding import and export of routes and discarding routes

regardless of whether they are local or remote per col. 12 lines 20-38 or wherein automatically

generating at least one routing rule for each site comprises generating an import rule for

discarding route information received from the respective site

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

import and export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claim 4, Iyer teaches: the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at

each one routing rule that the site utilizes RIP comprises generating for a site of said plurality of

sites, an RIP rule for accepting route information, in response to said site being a member of a

mesh VPN component, receiving from any site of said plurality of sites which is a member of

said VPN component per col. 12 lines 20-38. Iyer does not expressly call for: import rule

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends import per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67. RIP inherently

has rules regarding import of routes received from the respective site

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

import messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claims 5 & 6, Iyer teaches: the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating

at each one routing rule that the site utilizes RIP comprises generating for a site of said plurality

of sites, an RIP rule for accepting route information, in response to said site being a member of a

mesh VPN component, receiving from any site of said plurality of sites which is a member of

said VPN component regardless of whether the configuration is hub and spoke per col. 12 lines

20-38. Iyer does not expressly call for: import rule

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends import per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67. RIP inherently

has rules regarding import of routes received from the respective site

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

import messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claim 7, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at

least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38. Iyer does not

expressly call for: export rule wherein the number of local export rules generate is at least equal

to the number of VPN components of said VPN that the respective site is a member

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends export messages per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67;

therefore, assignment of RIP inherently assigns export rules. It would have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that there would be an export rule for each

VPN respectively.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claim 8, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at

least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38 and 102 per Fig 1 is

one site and 104 per Fig 1 is a second site provider edge –customer edge routers share RIP

information. They both accept and advertise or generate RIP routes associated with the VPN

member devices regardless of whether they mesh.

Iyer does not expressly call for: local export rule

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends export messages regardless whether the site is remote or local per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67; therefore, assignment of RIP inherently assigns local export rules. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claims 9 & 10, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38 and 102 per Fig 1 is one site and 104 per Fig 1 is a second site provider edge –customer edge routers share RIP information. They both accept and advertise or generate RIP routes associated with the VPN member devices regardless of whether they hub-spoke

Iyer does not expressly call for: local export rule

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends export messages regardless whether the site is remote or local per col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67; therefore, assignment of RIP inherently assigns local export rules. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards compatible.

Referring to claims 9 & 10, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38 and 102 per Fig 1 is one site and 104 per Fig 1 is a second site provider edge –customer edge routers share RIP information. They both accept and advertise or generate RIP routes associated with the VPN member devices regardless of whether they VPN component

Iyer does not expressly call for: local export rule

Zaummen teaches: RIP sends export messages regardless whether the site is remote or local per

col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 9 lines 46-67; therefore, assignment of RIP inherently assigns local

export rules. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to add export messages of Zaummen to the RIP of Iyer in order to be standards

compatible.

7.   Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iyer (U.S.

Patent No.: 6,944,183) in view of Rekhter (U.S. Patent No.: 6,339,595)

Referring to claim 12, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at

least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38 and 102 per Fig 1

Iyer does not expressly call for: generating a remote export rule for not advertising routin

information received form a site which is a member of a VPN component to a site which is not a

member of said VPN

Rekhter teaches: router in a VPN may be assigned to advertise intra-VPN traffic and not to

advertise intra- VPN traffic per col. 18 lines 59-67 or generating a remote export rule for not

advertising routin information received form a site which is a member of a VPN component to a

site which is not a member of said VPN

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

the rules of Rekhter to the method of Iyer in order to limit the traffic between VPNs.

Referring to claim 13, Iyer teaches the method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating at

least assigning one routing protocol or routing rule per col. 12 lines 20-38 and 102 per Fig 1

Iyer does not expressly call for: routing rule for each site comprises a generating for a site of

said plurality of sites in response to said site being a member of at least two VPN components, a

remote export rule for advertising route information received from a site which si a mber of a

first VPN component of said at least two VPN components to at least one site which is not a

member of said first VPN component.

Rekhter teaches: router in a VPN may be assigned to advertise intra-VPN traffic and not to

advertise intra- VPN traffic per col. 18 lines 59-67 or routing rule for each site comprises a

generating for a site of said plurality of sites in response to said site being a member of at least

two VPN components, a remote export rule for advertising route information received from a site

which si a mber of a first VPN component of said at least two VPN components to at least one

site which is not a member of said first VPN component.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

the rules of Rekhter to the method of Iyer in order to limit the traffic between VPNs.

8.   Claim 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giniger (U.S.

Patent No.: 6,751,729) in view of Arquie (U.S. Patent No.: 6,880,127)

Referring to claim 15, Giniger teaches a Manager management Server per Fig 7 or system for

provisioning a routing policy to a plurality of sites of a virtual private network. Giniger does not

expressly call for: a graphical user interface but teaches a Management server for configuring the

network per Fig 7. Arquie teaches display graphically displaying two nodes in which are

components of a network per Figs 1A-1E and per col. 1 lines 27-col. 2 lines 29 and per Col.2 line

49-col 3 line 67. The display area or customer area shows two sites which upon dragging the

cursor from one node to the other node and dropping defines a route between the two nodes

which makes it a member of the network of VPN.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the time of the invention to add the

display unit of Arquie to the management server of Giniger in order to assign nodes to the

network in an efficient manner.

rules of Rekhter to the method of Iyer in order to limit the traffic between VPNs.

9.   Claims 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Giniger

(U.S. Patent No.: 6,751,729) in view of Arquie (U.S. Patent No.: 6,880,127) further in view of

Iyer (U.S. Patent No.: 6,944,183)

Referring to claim 16, Gininger and Arquie teach: the system of claim 15. The combination of

Gininger and Arquie do not expressly call for: further comprising means for automatically

generating at least one routing rule for each site of said plurality of sites based at least in part on

membership of said respective site.

Iyer teaches: further comprising means for automatically generating at least one routing rule for

each site of said plurality of sites based at least in part on membership of said respective site per

Abstract or per col. 12 lines 20-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

assigning membership of Iyer to the system of Ginniger and Arquie in order to build a system

which can assign a routing protocol on a VPN basis.

Referring to claim 17, Gininger, Arquie, and Iyer teach: the system of claim 16. The

combination of Gininger, Arquie, & Iyer do not expressly call for: further comprising means for

distributing said respective generating routing rule to a respective one of said plurality of sites of

said VN component.

Iyer teaches: further comprising means for distributing said respective generating routing rule to

a respective one of said plurality of sites of said VN component per Fig 8.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

display of Iyer to the system of Ginniger, Arquie, and Iyer in order to build a system which is

user friendly for an administrator.

Referring to claim 18, Gininger, Arquie, and Iyer teach: the system of claim 17. The

combination of Gininger, Arquie, & Iyer do not expressly call for: further comprising means for

processing by each site route information received from said plurality of sites based at least one

said one routing rule generating for said respective site.

Iyer teaches: means for processing by each site route information received from said plurality of

sites based at least one said one routing rule generating for said respective site per Fig 8.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

display of Iyer to the system of Ginniger, Arquie, and Iyer in order to build a system which is

user friendly for an administrator.

Referring to claim 19, Gininger, Arquie, and Iyer teach: the system of claim 18. The

combination of Gininger, Arquie, & Iyer do not expressly call for: further comprising means for

establishing routing relations between said plurality of sites based at least in part on said

processed routing information.

Iyer teaches: means for further comprising means for establishing routing relations between said

plurality of sites based at least in part on said processed routing information. per Fig 8.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

display of Iyer to the system of Ginniger, Arquie, and Iyer in order to build a system which is

user friendly for an administrator.

Referring to claim 20, Gininger, Arquie, and Iyer teach: the system of claim 15. The

combination of Gininger, Arquie, & Iyer do not expressly call for: further comprising a database

operable to store said at least one routing rule.

Iyer teaches: routing policies or rules are stored in the central database per Abstract or per col. 8

lines 65-67.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

the routing data base of Iyer to the system of the Gininger, Arquie, and Iyer in order to store the

system configuration values.

Conclusion

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Robert W. Wilson whose telephone number is 571/272-3075.

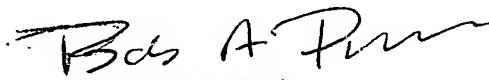The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Chau T. Nguyen can be reached on 571/272-3126. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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Robert W Wilson
Examiner
Art Unit 2661

RWW
12/28/05

BOB PHUNKULH
PRIMARY EXAMINER